

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 104401 TOSEC 040065
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 104401 TOSEC 040065

EXDIS FOR ASSISTANT SECY HARTMAN

BOLLOING REPEAT MADRID 3461 ACTION SECSTATE TEL AVIV DATED
MAY 05:

QTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 3461

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, IS, SP

SUBJECT: SPANISH CONTACTS WITH ISRAEL

1. DURING THE MEETING PRIME MINISTER SUAREZ HAD WITH
MEMBERS OF THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE IN
WASHINGTON APRIL 29, SENATOR STONE OF FLORIDA ASKED
SUAREZ ABOUT SPANISH INTENTIONS TO ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC
RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL. STONE RECALLED THAT, DURING THE
KING'S VISIT, THE KING SAID THAT IT WAS EXPECTED RELATIONS
WOULD BE ESTABLISHED AFTER SPAIN HAD ESTABLISHED RELATIONS
WITH THE SOVIET UNION. STONE POINTED OUT THAT ALTHOUGH
RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED,
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NOTHING YET HAD HAPPENED ABOUT ISRAEL.

2. PRIME MINISTER SUAREZ GAVE A SOMEWHAT EVASIVE
ANSWER INDICATING THAT HE HAD BEEN IN OFFICE ONLY NINE
MONTHS AND THAT NOT EVERYTHING COULD BE DONE IN
SUCH A SHORT TIME. HE ALSO REFERRED TO SPANISH
RELATIONS WITH THE ARABS, AND GAVE THE GENERAL

IMPRESSION THAT SPAIN HAD NO IMMEDIATE PLANS FOR ESTABLISHING RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL. HOWEVER, SUAREZ DID MAKE THE RATHER CRYPTIC REMARK THAT WITH RESPECT TO ISRAEL, THERE WERE CERTAIN THINGS BEING DONE QUOTE UNDER THE TABLE UNQUOTE, AND THAT THESE WERE QUOTE POSITIVE UNQUOTE. HE LET IT GO AT THAT AND SENATOR STONE PURSUED THE MATTER NO FURTHER.

3. SINCE RETURNING TO MADRID I HAVE LEARNED THAT, WHILE IN NEW YORK, PRIME MINISTER SUAREZ OR A MEMBER OF HIS PARTY DID RECEIVE ISRAELI OFFICIALS. I AM NOW ENDEAVORING TO OBTAIN FURTHER DETAILS.

4. IN VIEW OF THE SENSITIVITY OF INFORMATION AND SOURCE OF PARA 3, NO MENTION OF THIS SHOULD BE MADE TO SPANISH OFFICIALS. STABLER UNQTE CHRISTOPHER

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